Threats from Pakistan Jihadi outfits

710. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether backlash of the rise of extremism in Pakistan after assassination of its former Prime Minister (Mrs. Benazir Bhutto) was felt in India;

(b) whether National Security Adviser wrote a letter to all the Chief Ministers of the States to beef up security of all key political leaders in the country;

(c) whether cross-border bus and train services with Pakistan were affected/suspended;

(d) whether Pakistan Jihadi outfits reportedly spill over threats from across the border and activate their terror sleeper cells in India; and

(e) if so, the preventive measures taken by Government for internal/external security of country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There has been no backlash post assassination of Pakistan's former Prime Minister (Mrs. Benazir Bhutto) in India.

(b) The National Security Adviser, communicates with Governors and Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories as also with Chief Secretaries/Directors General of Police on a periodic basis with regard to various national security threats including threats to key political leaders.

(c) As a precautionary measure, cross border bus and train services with Pakistan were suspended for a day only on December 28, 2007 following assassination of Mrs. Benazir Bhutto on December 27, 2007, which led to law and order problem in Pakistan.

(d) Pak based terrorist groups have exhibited an abiding interest in carrying out violent actions in the hinterland of India.

(e) The policy of the Government is to counter the challenge posed by terrorism by way of a multi-pronged strategy. In pursuance of this strategy, the Government has taken various measures on political, security and development fronts. The Government is willing to talk to all those groups who agree to abjure violence. On the security front, the counter terrorism measures include effective border management to check infiltration across the borders, deployment of Central Forces to aid the State Police Forces in areas prone to terrorist violence, heightened vigil and security arrangements and around vital installations, strengthening of intelligence gathering and sharing capabilities, particularly at the cutting edge level, augmentation and modernisation of police forces and raising of India Reserve Battalions, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment with the Central and State Police Forces and steps taken to achieve bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation to deal with the global imperatives of terrorism . On the development front, a variety of measures have been taken to accelerate developmental activities in the areas affected by terrorism/extremism.

Steps for curbing terrorist/spying activities in Rajasthan

711. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the strategic location of Rajasthan and having long international

border with Pakistan, what steps Government has taken so far to sanction and strengthen **the** scheme of rural/desert policing in Rajasthan, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme;

(b) the financial support Government has so far provided or proposes to provide to strengthen the system in the State for curbing the possibilities of terrorist/spying activities and strengthening rural desert policing in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATIV. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) Central assistance is provided to States under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) to strengthen and modernise their police forces, Accordingly, Central assistance has been provided to Rajasthan for strengthening its' police force in various activities, including desert policing. The details of Central funds released to Rajasthan are as under the MPF Scheme:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Total funds released (including desert policing)	Funds released for desert policing
2005-06	34.81	03.00
2006-07	40.47	12.00
2007-08	38.06	**09.00**
Total	113.34	24.00

Besides, the State Government has been advised to earmark upto 5% of the plan size under the Scheme towards strengthening of the intelligence/special branches.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (a) to (c) above.

High Court's directions regarding telecast of sting operations

712. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent High Court judgement proposed a scheme in which media organizations would telecast sting operations only after they have been cleared by the Government committee;

(b) if so, whether this is one of the sweeping guidelines on sting operations proposed by a bench headed by Chief Justice and has directed that I & B Ministry incorporate them in the proposed Broadcast Bill; and

(c) if so, what are the other points mentioned in the judgement about the sting telecast and by what time Government is considering to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court has directed that